

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

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INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA

UNCLAS TOKYO 12034

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, JA

SUBJECT: ANNUAL PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES' WAGE INCREASES

1. ON AUGUST 10 JAPAN'S NATIONAL PERSONNEL AUTHORITY ANNOUNCED ITS RECOMMENDATION FOR WAGE INCREASES OF AN AVERAGE OF 8.77 PERCENT FOR NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE EMPLOYEES. THE INCREASE WILL MEAN AN ADDITIONAL 11,014 YEN (\$37.25 WITH \$1.00 - 293 YEN) PER MONTH, BRINGING AVERAGE PUBLIC SERVICE WAGES TO 158,552 YEN (544.68) PER MONTH. THE INCREASE IS COMPOSED OF A 6.94 PERCENT COST OF LIVING INCREASE AND A 1.83 PERCENT REGULAR ANNUAL RAISE. THE INCREASE IS THE SMALLEST EVER TO HAVE BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE NATIONAL PERSONNEL AUTHORITY SINCE ITS INCEPTION OF THE SYSTEM IN 1960. AS SUCH, IT REFLECTS THE UNUSUALLY LOW WAGE INCREASES (AVERAGE 8.9 PERCENT) WHICH WERE NEGOTIATED THIS SPRING BETWEEN JAPAN'S LARGE PRIVATE SECTOR ENTERPRISES AND THEIR UNIONS. AVERAGE WAGE INCREASE OF 8.8 PERCENT WERE GRANTED IN APRIL TO THE EMPLOYEES OF STATE ENTERPRISES AND PUBLIC CORPORATIONS.

2. AT THE SAME TIME, THE NATIONAL PERSONNEL AUTHORITY ALSO ISSUED ITS RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ANNUAL BONUSES FOR NATIONAL PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS. AT 787,000 YEN (\$2,686.00), THE ANNUAL BONUSES WILL BE THE EQUIVALENT

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OF 5.0 MONTHS PAY, A REDUCTION OF 0.2 MONTHS OR ROUGHLY

4 PERCENT FROM THE BONUSES RECOMMENDED LAST YEAR. THIS YEAR'S INCREASES WILL BE RETROACTIVE TO THE BEGINNING OF JAPAN FISCAL YEAR 1976 ON APRIL 1, BUT FOR THEIR IMPLEMENTATION THEY WILL DEPEND, ACCORDING TO THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE ON THE PASSAGE OF A SPECIAL DEFICIT-COVERING FINANCE BILL BY THE DIET. THE GOVERNMENT HAS ANNOUNCED ITS INTENTION TO CONVENE A SPECIAL SESSION OF THE DIET IN ORDER TO PASS A VARIETY OF SPECIAL FINANCIAL BILLS IN THE NEAR FUTURE BUT THE DATE HAS NOT YET BEEN SET. SHOESMITH

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